



# Riverbend Primary School

## Student Dress Code

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Riverbend Primary School's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This dress code has been developed by Riverbend Primary School's School Council in close consultation with our school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Riverbend Primary School's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition on the basis of clothing
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.

Riverbend Primary School has developed a dress code that we believe provides a range of choices for students and is cost effective for families.

### SCOPE

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

### UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Riverbend Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

Summer uniform – students can select from the following items:

- Riverbend summer dress (no shirts or stockings to be worn under this item, however, bike shorts are permitted)
- Riverbend short sleeve academic shirt
- Riverbend short sleeve polo shirt
- navy blue shorts
- Riverbend bucket hat (compulsory)
- navy or white socks
- black, navy or white runners

Winter uniform - students can select from the following items:

- Riverbend winter dress (to be worn with either the long sleeve academic shirt or white skivvy and navy blue tights)
- Riverbend long sleeve academic shirt
- Riverbend long sleeve polo shirt
- plain navy blue pants or tracksuit pants
- navy or white socks
- black, navy or white runners

Additional items - students can select from the following items:

- Riverbend jumper
- Riverbend vest
- Riverbend windcheater
- Riverbend soft shell jacket
- Riverbend scarf
- Riverbend beanie
- Riverbend school bag
- navy tights

Please note – navy blue pants and shorts, as well as the school bag, do not need to be purchased from the uniform supplier. **Any plain navy blue pants or shorts are acceptable.** Leggings, skirts and skorts are **not** part of the school uniform.

### **General appearance**

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Riverbend Primary School students must comply with the following:

- uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name
- students can choose to wear either the sport uniform or the academic uniform
- additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

### **Jewellery and cosmetics**

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and small sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery.

Cosmetics may not be worn at school. Only clear nail polish is permitted. For safety reasons, fingernails must be kept short.

### **Hair**

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety. Hair accessories need to be either light blue, navy blue or white. Hair should be a natural colour (not colours such as blue, purple etc).

Students are permitted to wear a plain navy blue or white head scarf to support religious beliefs.

### **Sun safety**

**The Riverbend school bucket hat must be worn outside in Terms one and four.** School uniform hats may also be worn outside of this time period, by parent or student choice.

Hats are not to be worn inside.

Students are permitted to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities. Sunglasses should be close-fitting, wrap-around that meet the Australian Standards 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

### **PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS**

Uniform items can be purchased from Rushfords in Werribee or online through Noone. School hats can be purchased at the office depending on availability.

### **Support for families experiencing difficulty**

Please contact the Principal or Business Manager to discuss support that we may be able to provide to families experiencing difficulty meeting uniform costs, including information about eligibility for uniform support through State Schools' Relief. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Riverbend Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website, yearly on Compass and in the family welcome pack. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code, the following process will be followed:

- on the first occasion a verbal reminder will be given to the student
- on the second day of non-compliance a note will be provided to the parents via Compass.
- on the third day of non-compliance, students will be required to sit under Gonyah during break times. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal or an Assistant Principal will be informed, and a phone call home may be required. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Measures taken by Riverbend Primary School to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also be addressed in accordance with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

### **EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE**

We recognise that there may be situations where the application of this dress code may affect students unequally.

Students and their parents or carers may apply either in writing or in person to the Principal for an exemption to this Student Dress Code if:

- an aspect of this code prevents the student from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural beliefs or background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code.

When the Principal receives a request for an exemption, they will:

- consider the grounds for the exemption request
- explain the process to the student and/or their parents/carers
- encourage the student and/or their parents/carers to support their application with evidence.

The principal or delegate will then try to negotiate a resolution that is acceptable to all parties. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents or carers.

### **CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE**

Riverbend Primary School welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this Student Dress Code. If you have a concern or complaint about the Student Dress Code, please contact the Principal

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- Riverbend Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Riverbend Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Riverbend Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

### **REVIEW CYCLE**

This Student Dress Code was last approved by School Council on 23/11/2023 and is scheduled for review in 2024.